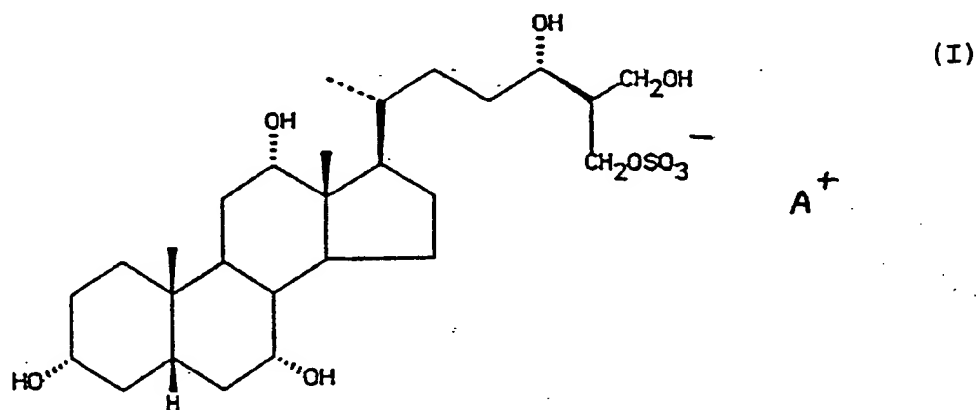




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification⁴ : C07J 31/00, A61K 31/575</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 88/ 01274 (43) International Publication Date: 25 February 1988 (25.02.88)</p>
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(54) Title: ACTIVE PRINCIPLE ISOLATED FROM SHARK TISSUES



(57) Abstract

A compound of general formula (I), in substantially pure form, wherein A is a cation. A method for preparation is also disclosed, together with compositions and methods of use thereof.

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"ACTIVE PRINCIPLE ISOLATED FROM SHARK TISSUES"

This invention relates to the identification, isolation and preparation of an active principle by extraction from natural tissues, and in particular it relates to the identification, isolation and preparation of such an active principle by
5 extraction from particular tissues of sharks.

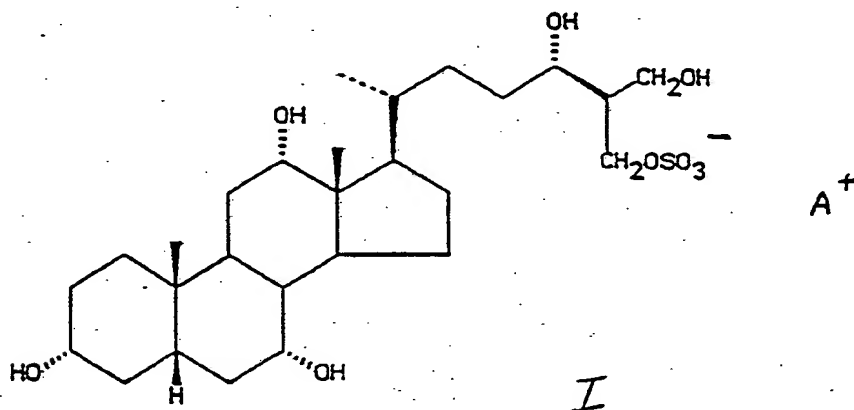
In Japan, a preparation known as "deep-sea shark liver oil" has been used as a folk remedy for a long time. It is an oil prepared from shark's liver
10 and is normally capsulated in soft capsules. The liver oil is said to be effective in treatment of many kinds of diseases, especially those which are related to the liver, such as hepatitis, nephritis, diabetes, etc. As well, when used externally, it is widely
15 recognised that the liver oil is effective in treatment of scalds, burns or other types of skin trouble, and also is ideal as an ingredient for cosmetics.

The present inventors have been studying this material for many years, and recently have
20 discovered the unexpected fact that an active substance exists in the aqueous component of shark's liver rather than the oil soluble component. This fact was recognised from a comparison of the practical
25 use of the liver oil and a powder produced from the

aqueous component of the liver by evaporation of the water. In comparative tests of a dosage of 900mg of the liver oil per day and 60mg of the powder per day, the latter gave a better clinical result than the former. Furthermore, where the liver oil was thoroughly washed with water, the resulting oil showed almost no effect. These facts indicate that the active substance of deep-sea shark liver is not oil-soluble as previously believed, but is water-soluble.

According to the present invention, there is provided an active principle which is isolated from an aqueous extract of the liver and/or gallbladder of a shark.

In a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a compound of the general formula I, in substantially pure form,



wherein A is a cation, such as a sodium, potassium, calcium or ammonium ion, or an organic amine.

In other aspects, this invention provides a method for the preparation of a compound of general formula I in substantially pure form, together with

compositions for pharmaceutical, dietary or cosmetic purposes which comprise such a compound.

By using activity assays which are described in detail below, it has been shown that the active principle is water-soluble and does not exist in the oil-soluble component of shark's liver. These assays have been used in a series of tests to ascertain whether the active principle exists only in the liver. All parts of the shark's body, such as the bones, meat, gallbladder, ovary, alimentary canal, etc., have been investigated, and it has been found that the gallbladder showed the same activities as liver in the assays. This result indicates that the active principle exists only in liver and gallbladder.

In general terms, the two bioassays referred to herein and used to identify sources of the active principle and to assess the degree of purity of an extract, are designed to identify characteristic pharmacological activities of the substance. In particular, the bioassays, designated as (A) and (B) are based on the following activities:

- (A) The active principle prevents liver trouble in mice caused by carbon tetrachloride.
- (B) The active principle increases the respiration rate in mice when a toxic substances such as nicotine is administered.

The present invention also provides a method for preparing an active principle as described above, which comprises the steps of preparing an aqueous extract of the liver and/or gallbladder of a shark, and isolating the active principle from the aqueous extract.

The following description sets out general procedures for isolation of the active principle from

the aqueous extract of the liver and/or gallbladder of a shark, involving the steps of extraction with polar organic solvents, adsorption on suitable adsorbents and/or chromatography techniques.

5 In order to determine whether the active principle is soluble in polar organic solvents, such as methanol, ethanol, acetone, etc., the powder obtained by freeze-drying of shark's bile was extracted with polar organic solvent, then the (A) and
10 (B) assays were applied to both the soluble part and the insoluble part. Activity was seen only in the assays on the soluble portion, thus establishing that active principle is soluble in polar organic solvents.

 In testing to determine whether the active
15 principle can be isolated utilising adsorbents, many adsorbents were examined and it was found that the active principle can be adsorbed by ion exchange resins of basic anion exchange type, or by synthetic adsorbents such as XAD, HP-20, Sep-pak c18, etc., or
20 charcoal. This absorption test was performed by extracting shark's liver and/or gallbladder with water. Each adsorbent under test was added to the extract and left to stand overnight. The mixture was then filtered and each filtrate tested for activity by
25 the (A) and (B) assays. The results indicate that the active substance is adsorbed by those adsorbents mentioned above. The active principle may be recovered from the adsorbent resins by extraction with acid, alkali or salts, and from the synthetic
30 adsorbents and charcoal by extraction with polar organic solvents.

 Further purification of the active principle is achieved by chromatography, for example in a silica column, Sephadex LH-20 column, or by preparative TLC
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(thin layer chromatography) or HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography), etc. Each method gave satisfactory results, but HPLC gave the best purification. The active principle as isolated by HPLC was quite pure because it gave very sharp single peak and also gave a single spot of approximate representative Rf value of 0.36 on TLC. The active principle in its purified form is a white powder of melting point of 140°C.

Testing of the purified active principle by vanillin sulfuric acid gave a purple colour, indicating that it contains bile acid or bile alcohol in its structure. It has already been found that the bile of sharks contains a bile alcohol named scymnol. After partial acetylation of the active principle with acetic anhydride, followed by treatment of the crude product with dry dioxan-trichloroacetic acid for several days, scymnol was identified from the reaction mixture. The result indicated that the active principle is a scymnol derivative. It was the first isolation of the pure scymnol derivative contained in bile of shark, as the active principle.

A preferred procedure for isolation of the active principle from the lyophilized bile of Rhizoprionodon acutus (obtained by homogenization and freeze-drying of gall-bladders), is set out in the following chart:

Lyophilized bile of Rhizoprionodon acutus
extracted with 1. n-Hexane (100mlx3)
2. MeOH (100mlx3)

Fraction I (MeOH-extract)

1. dissolved in H₂O
2. Amberlite XAD-2 c.c., eluting with
 - i. H₂O (400ml)
 - ii. MeOH (400ml)

Fraction II (MeOH-eluate)

1. dissolved in CHCl₃-MeOH(1:1)
2. Sephadex LH-20 c.c. eluted with
 - i. CHCl₃-MeOH(1:1) (300ml)
 - ii. MeOH (500ml)

Fraction III

HPLC: YMC-Pack A-324 (ODS)

Colorless powder (compound I)

As set out above, in this procedure the lyophilized material is deflated with n-hexane, and then extracted with methanol. The concentrate thus obtained is applied to an Amberlite XAD-2 column in batches, using H₂O, and ethanol as eluents. As the ethanol eluate contains the active principle (as determined by color reagent), this fraction is successively subjected to gel filtration on Sephadex LH-20 with chloroform-methanol and methanol. The active principle is so effectively contained in the methanol eluate that its final purification is achieved by successive application of HPLC with a reverse phase column.

It has been suggested that scymnol might be in the form of a sulphate ester, but no positive information has been published about the position of attachment of the sulphate ester, because scymnol has six hydroxyl groups where the sulphate ester group might be attached. The present scymnol derivative has never been isolated as a pure substance. The active powder as purified by HPLC was subjected to elementary analyses. Results were anal: calcd for $C_{27}H_{51}O_9NS$, C;57.34, H;9.02, N;2.47, S;5.66. Found C;57.23, H;8.92, N;2.45, S;5.30. These results suggested that the active compound has ammonium sulphate ester in the structure. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy of the active powder showed the following properties.

1H -NMR(in d_4 -MeOH) δ (ppm):
4.22(dd, 1H, $J=4.5$ and $10.0Hz$),
4.11(dd, 1H, $J=10.0$ and $16.7Hz$),
4.00(bs, 1H), 3.80(d, 1H, $J=1.2Hz$),
3.60-3.80(m, 4H), 3.30-3.45(m, 1H), 0.72(s, 3H).

^{13}C -NMR(in d_4 -MeOH) δ (ppm): 74.1(d), 72.9(d),
71.3(d), 69.1(d), 66.7(t), 61.2(t), 48.4(d),
47.8(d), 47.5(s), 43.1(d), 43.0(d), 41.0(d),
40.4(t), 37.0(d), 36.5(t), 35.9(s), 35.8(t),
33.3(t), 32.1(t), 31.2(t), 29.6(t), 28.8(t),
27.9(d), 24.3(t), 23.2(q), 18.1(q), 13.1(q).

^{13}C -NMR spectrum shows that the active compound has 27 carbon atoms made up of three methyl, 11 methylene, 11 methine and two tertiary carbons. The signals at low field (0.72-2.35) in 1H -NMR spectrum suggest that it seems to be a coprostane derivative. At the higher field in ^{13}C -NMR spectrum, signals at 74.1(d), 72.9(d), 71.3(d) and 69.1(d) are

assignable to the methine carbon with hydroxyl group. And the two signals at 66.7(t) and 61.2(t) are ascribable to the O-substituted methylene carbon. 2D COSY NMR spectra and C-H-shift-COSY relationship indicate that these two carbons attach to a methine carbon and one of them with low chemical shift (66.7) has two unequivalent protons at 4.22(dd) and 4.14(dd) ppm in the ^1H -NMR spectrum, which indicates that the active compound has the partial moiety of $\text{HOCH}_2\text{-CH-CH}_2\text{OR}$ in the molecule. From the results of elementary analyses, R is $-\text{SO}_3\text{NH}_4$.

From these NMR spectra and elementary analyses, the powder is characterised as 3 α , 7 α , 12 α , 24 ξ , 26-pentahydroxycoprostan-27-ammonium sulphate ester. The ammonium ion in the structure possibly came from the phosphate ammonium buffer used as mobile phase in HPLC, by replacement of a sodium ion. To verify this point, an active powder purified by XAD-2 and then by column chromatography on Sepadex LH-20 was subjected to atomic absorption spectrophotometry for sodium and to elementary analysis for nitrogen. The results were, calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{47}\text{O}_9\text{SNa}$, Na; 4.03, N; 0.00, found Na; 3.57, N; 0.02. The stereochemistry of the C-24 position in the structure was determined as 24R by X-ray crystallographic analysis of scymnol and the specific rotation of sodium scymnol sulphate is positive. Accordingly, it is concluded that the active principle isolated from shark is 24R-(+)-3 α , 7 α , 12 α , 24, 26-pentahydroxycoprostan-27-sodium sulphate ester.

The sodium or ammonium ion in the sulphate ester is easily replaced by other metal ions such as potassium, calcium, etc., or by organic amine cations

such as amino acids, etc., by means of well known procedures.

The following Tables illustrate the activity of the aqueous extracts of this invention:

TABLE I

	Dosage	Bioassay (A) (Units)	Bioassay (B) (Seconds)
Oil-soluble part of shark's liver	500mg	13,800	21
Water-soluble part of shark's liver	50mg	9,500	15
Control		13,000	22

TABLE II

Aqueous Extract of Shark's Gallbladder, Purified by:	Dosage	Bioassay (A) (Units)	Bioassay (B) (Seconds)
Charcoal adsorption	5mg		15
XAD-2 adsorption	1mg		16
Anion-exchange resin adsorption	0.5mg	8,200	14
Purified active principle	0.15mg	9,600	15
Control		14,000	22

Standard bioassays referred to in the above description were performed as follows:

Bioassay (A)

Biological test for protective activity against

carbon tetrachloride (CCl_4)-induced liver lesions in mice.

Male Std:ddy mice (weight 30-35g) were used in groups of 5 animals. Samples of test materials were administered orally 7 days at a suitable daily dose and 0.1ml of 5% CCl_4 in olive oil was orally administered at 24hrs after the last sample administration. Blood was obtained from the orbital sinus at 24hrs after the CCl_4 administration. Serum was obtained by centrifugation (3,000 rpm., 10min) and glutamic pyruvic transaminase (GPT) activity was measured by Reitman-Frankel-Momose method. Activity was expressed as a comparison of GPT values between the sample-administered groups and controls.

Bioassay (B)

Effect on respiration in nicotine administration to mice.

Male Std:ddy mice (weight 20-22g) were used in groups of 5 animals. Nicotine tartrate (3mg) was injected subcutaneously. Samples of test materials were orally administered 3hrs before nicotine administration. The time taken for 30 respirations was counted 5 minutes after nicotine administration. Activity was expressed as a comparison of the counted time between the sample-administered groups and controls:

The present invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising an active substance as described above, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor. By way of example, the active substance can be formulated as stable tablets after being mixed as a

powder with a known carrier or bulking agent.
Alternatively, the active substance can be
incorporated into a lotion or cream base for topical
application. In yet another alternative, the active
substance can for example be filled in soft gelatin
capsules, if desired after being admixed with shark's
liver oil. Such pharmaceutical compositions may be
used, for example, for the protection of the liver or
activation of liver function in the treatment of
diseases or conditions affecting the liver such as
hepatitis, nephritis, diabetes, etc.. Such
compositions may also be used for the activation of
regeneration of skin tissue, for example, in the
treatment of dermatitis, trauma or acne.

Clinical tests which have been performed
using compositions containing the active substance
have specifically demonstrated its activity in
restoration of the liver function, and in the
treatment of seborrhea.

In a further aspect of this invention, there
is provided a dietary or health food composition which
comprises the active principle described herein,
together with one or more appropriate base or carrier
materials. Such a composition may, for example, be
useful in the treatment of a hangover.

In another aspect, the present invention
provides a cosmetic composition comprising the active
principle as described above, together with a cosmetic
base material.

The compositions of the present invention
may also incorporate known pharmaceuticals or other
active ingredients, for example, antibiotics or other
antibacterial substances.

Further details of this invention will be apparent from the following Examples which illustrate the invention without limiting it in any way.

5 EXAMPLE 1 - Preparation of Crude Active Principle

280g of a mixture of liver and gallbladder isolated from 4kg of shark was homogenised in 300ml of water, and the mixture was centrifuged at 12,000 rpm for 30 minutes to obtain a clear aqueous layer. 50g of ion exchange resin of basic anion exchange type was added to the aqueous layer and the mixture was left to stand overnight. The resin was removed by filtration and washed with water. The resin was then extracted with 200ml of 0.5% sodium chloride solution. 100g of XAD2 was added to the extracted solution. XAD2 was removed by filtration and washed with water. XAD2 was extracted with 200ml of ethanol. From the extract, ethanol was removed by distillation to obtain 45mg of crude active powder.

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EXAMPLE 2 - Silica gel column chromatography

100g of crude active compound obtained by adsorption on a XAD-2 column was subjected to chromatography on a silica gel column, using MeOH-CHCl₃-H₂O(30:70:6) as solvent, to afford white powder (40g).

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EXAMPLE 3 - Thin layer chromatography (TLC)

Crude active compound was subjected to TLC on a precoated silica gel 60 thin layer plate (Merck), using the system (parts by volume): n-BuOH(85)-AcOH(10)-H₂O(5) and MeOH(40)-CHCl₃(60)-H₂O(10). The active principle showed as a single spot

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on TLC, and was visualized by spraying with vanillin sulfuric acid reagent.

EXAMPLE 4 - High performance liquid chromatography
(HPLC)

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Final purification of crude active powder was achieved by successive application of preparative HPLC with a reverse phase column. 31g of the active compound in the form of white powder, mp.140°, was obtained from 100g of XAD-2 purified sample. The approximate representative retention time of the active compound was 16 minute. The conditions for HPLC were as follows: column: YMC-Pack A-324(ODS); flow rate: 20ml/min.; mobile phase: CH₃CN-0.02N phosphate ammonium buffer (pH 7.45)(8:2); detector: refractive index.

EXAMPLE 5 - Column chromatography on Sephadex LH-20

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Crude active compound (100g) obtained by adsorption on a XAD-2 column was subjected to gel filtration on Sephadex LH-20 column, using MeOH-CHCl₃(1:1) and then MeOH as eluents, to afford white powder (45g) from the MeOH fraction. Rechromatography on the same column afforded 30g of almost pure white powder.

EXAMPLE 6

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Gall-bladders (65g), obtained from 5 sharks of the species Rhizoprionodon acutus (ca 8Kg weight), were homogenized and then freeze-dried. This material (10.25g) was used as a source of the active principle, sodium scymnol sulphate. After defatting the material with refluxing n-hexane (100ml x3), it was extracted with methanol (100ml x3) under reflux for 1h. The

concentrate (3.67g) was dissolved in H₂O (80ml), and applied to an Amberlite XAD-2 column (3.0 x 16.0cm). The column was eluted with H₂O (400ml) and then with ethanol (400ml). Then, the ethanol eluate (1.95g) was applied to Sephadex LH-20 column (3.0 x 32.0cm), chloroform and methanol (1:1). After elution with chloroform and methanol (200ml), the column was developed with methanol in batches of 50ml.

Concentration of the methanol eluate containing the sodium salt gave a white gum (1.06g). Purification of this material (120mg) by HPLC yielded 85.6mg of sodium scymnol sulphate as white powder. The conditions for HPLC were as follows: column, YMC-Pack A-324(ODS) 10x300mm; flow rate, 2ml/min; mobile phase, 35%

CH₃CN-0.1N Sodium Phosphate Buffer (pH 6.43); detector, Refractive Index, Sodium scymnol sulphate has the following physical data: White powder; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = 21.75(0.5c, \text{ in MeOH})$; Anal.: Calcd. for C₂₇H₄₇O₉SNa : C;56.82 H;8.30 S;5.62 Na;4.03. Found: C;56.99 H;8.79 S;5.62 Na;4.23. SIMS mass (m/e) :

654[C₂₇H₄₇SO₉·HN(C₂H₆O)₂], 574[C₂₇H₄₇O₆·HN(C₂H₆O)₂].
IR_{max} $\nu_{\text{KBr cm}^{-1}}$: 3420, 2950, 1470, 1380, 1230, 1070, 980, 910, 810. ¹H-NMR (in CD₃OD); δ (ppm):

4.22(1H, dd, J=4.5, 10.0Hz), 4.11(1H, dd, J=6.6, 10.0Hz), 4.00(1H, broad), 3.80(1H, m), 3.80-3.62(3H, m), 3.45-3.30(1H, m), 2.35-2.15(2H, m), 2.05-1.02(23H, m), 1.02(3H, d, J=6.2Hz), 0.92(3H, s), 0.72(3H, s). ¹³C-NMR (in CD₃OD); δ (ppm): 74.1(d), 72.9(d), 71.4(d), 69.1(d), 66.7(t), 61.2(t), 48.3(d), 47.8(d), 47.5(s), 43.1(d), 43.0(d), 41.0(d), 40.3(t), 37.0(d), 36.5(t), 35.9(s), 35.8(t), 33.3(t), 32.1(t), 31.2(t), 29.5(t), 28.8(t), 27.9(d), 24.3(t), 23.2(q), 18.1(q), 13.1(q).

EXAMPLE 7

Trials have been conducted using the active principle of this invention in an antiseborrheous lotion applied topically by 40 male and female patients affected by long established (72) years facial hyperseborrhea. The trials were conducted as double blind trials with 20 patients applying a placebo and 20 patients applying the lotion containing the active principle.

In these trials, the treatment was applied three times daily (morning, midday and evening) over a period of 20 days, and an evaluation of seborrhea (Seborrhea Index) made at days 0, (prior to treatment), 10 and 21, (at end of treatment).

The results showed a significantly greater improvement in the seborrhea for patients using the lotion containing the active principle than for patients using the placebo. It was also observed that this improvement was shown in both male and female patients.

EXAMPLE 8 - Compositions

1. Cold cream

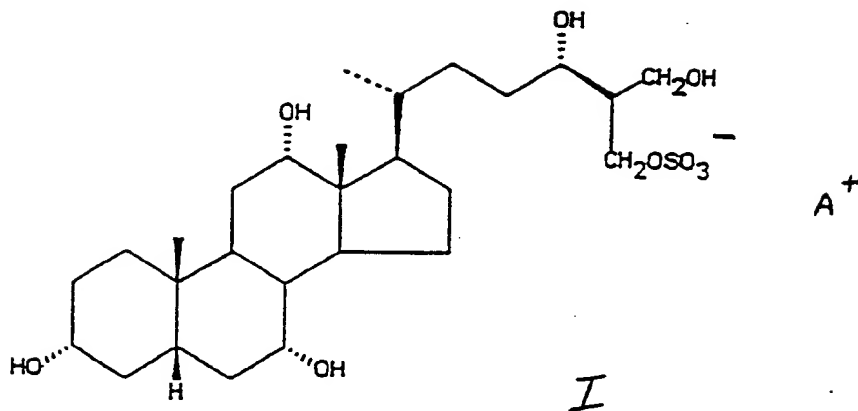
Spermacetti	6.0g
Beeswax	6.0g
Carbopol 934	10.0g
Sodium Carbonate	4.75g
Rose water	5.0ml
Rose oil	0.02ml
Expressed almond oil	56.0g
Active principle	0.05g
Distilled water	20.0g

2.

Tonic	
Ethanol	30ml
Active principle	20mg
Flavour	q.s.
Distilled water - sufficient quantity to make 100ml	

CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the general formula I, in substantially pure form,



Wherein A is a cation.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the cation is a sodium, potassium, calcium or ammonium ion, or an organic amine.
3. A method for the preparation of a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, in substantially pure form, which comprises the steps of preparing an aqueous extract of the liver and/or gall-bladder of a shark, and isolating the said compound from said aqueous extract.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said step of isolation from the aqueous extract comprises at least one step selected from solvent extraction, adsorption and chromatography.

5. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor.

6. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, in the form of a tablet, capsule, lotion or cream.

7. Use of a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, for the protection of the liver or activation of liver function in the treatment of diseases or conditions affecting the liver.

8. A composition for the treatment of the skin comprising a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, together with a topically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor.

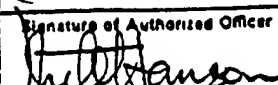
9. A composition according to claim 8, further comprising an antibiotic or other antibacterial substance.

10. A cosmetic composition comprising a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, together with a cosmetic base material.

11. Use of a compound of the general formula I as defined in claim 1, for the treatment of the skin.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/AU 87/00281

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (I suggest classification symbols apply, indicate all) According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁴ C07J 31/00, A61K 31/575		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searched ¹		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
IPC	C07J 31/00	
US Cl.	260/397.2	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ²		
AU : IPC as above		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT³		
Category ⁴	Citation of Document, ⁵ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ⁶	Relevant to Claim No. ⁷
A	US,A, 4296109 (LAURENT et al) 20 October 1981 (20.10.81)	(1)
A	US,A, 3994878 (PARTRIDGE, Jr. et al) 30 November 1976 (30.11.76)	(1)
* Special categories of cited documents: ⁸ - "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance - "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date - "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) - "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means - "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed - "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention - "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step - "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. - "G" document member of the same patent family		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 17 November 1987 (17.11.87)		Date of Mailing of this International Search Report (30-11-87) 30 NOVEMBER 1987
International Searching Authority Australian Patent Office		Signature of Authorized Officer  J.G. HANSON

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/AU 87/00281

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Members			
US 4296109	AU 51423/79	CA 1127630	DE 2843690		
	DK 4048/79	EP 10056	ES 484706		
	GB 2034715	JP 55051100	SU 818489		
	DE 2932166				
US 3994878	AT 7513/76	AT 5464/79	AT 5463/79		
	AT 5465/79	BE 847131	CH 628907		
	CH 634337	DE 2645527	FR 2351998		
	FR 2407941	GB 1564806	GB 1564807		
	GB 1564808	GB 1564809	GB 1564810		
	IT 1068692	JP 52046061	NL 7611155		
	CH 626096	CH 626097	US 4038272		

END OF ANNEX